

Scoring Criteria

Recreation Trails Program Application

18. ELIGIBLE PROJECT CATEGORIES

The following list is the types of projects to be funded with the Recreation Trails Program. Check all categories the proposed trail qualifies for.

_____ **Non-routine maintenance of trails:** applicant must show how the proposed project is not needed due to a lack of on-going maintenance on the applicant's part. Non-routine maintenance must be a one-time project for major improvements.

_____ **Restoration of areas damaged by usage (erosion control, over-use, impacts by non-permitted trail users, etc.)**

_____ **Environmental mitigation/enhancement:** measures that provide design, reconstruction, non-routine maintenance, or relocation of trails in order to mitigate and minimize impact on the natural environment.

_____ **Development of trailhead and trailside facilities**

1. Drainage
2. Crossings
3. Stabilization
4. Parking
5. Signage
6. Controls
7. Shelters
8. Water and Sanitary Facilities
9. Accessibility Infrastructure

_____ **Acquisition of land** (must be a willing seller)

1. Fee Simple (preferred)
2. Easement (public use access)
3. Lease (minimum 25-year lease on public land.)

_____ **New trail construction**

- 19. PROJECT SUMMARY** - Provide a one-page project summary of the proposed project. This summary should describe the scope of the project and justify the need and demand for the project. Applicant should address how the proposed project meets the “intent” of the Recreation Trails Program eligibility criteria as described in the application. Any special issues or significant features of the project should be included. **Try to “sell” your project in this one-page summary.** (50 points possible)
- 20. PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA** - Explain how the project meets the following project selection criteria. Use one page per lettered item below. (100 total points possible) Application must provide information on all the items listed below in order to receive the maximum score. Use one page for each lettered item.
- A. Partnerships** – Describe the degree to which the trail project involves interagency cooperation and public/private partnering between trail user organizations and public agencies. (0-20 points)
 - B. Connections** – Describe the degree to which project provides linkages to other trails, greenways, scenic corridors, parks or recreation areas. (0-20 points)
 - C. Planning Process** – Describe the planning process for the project. Include documentation of public involvement and support for the proposed project. (0-15 points)
 - D. Volunteerism** – Provide information about volunteer services and donated materials that will be used to accomplish this project. Include information about youth conservation corps, AmeriCorps or other volunteer service organization involvement. (0-15 points)
 - E. Trail Sharing** – Describe how the trail project can accommodate a variety of motorized and/or non-motorized recreation activities (hiking, equestrian, motorcycle, fitness, interpretive, paddle sport, multi-use, ATV, 4-wheel drive, mountain bicycling, accessible trails). (0-10 points)
 - F. Environmental Mitigation** – Describe how the project provides for the design, construction, location or redesign, reconstruction, or relocation of the trail or trailhead in order to mitigate and minimize the impact to the natural environment making for a sustainable project. (0-10 points)
 - G. Maintenance Commitment** – Describe the degree of commitment (such as on-going funding or trail adoption) to continue operation and maintenance after project is complete. (0-10 points)
 - H. Bonus Points** – Bonus points will be considered for the projects that emphasize trail projects that provide for motorized trail use, mountain bike use, equestrian trail use, water trail use and backcountry hiking use (or any combination of these). . Land acquisition for greenways and/or trails; are identified as having the highest demand, through public input, as identified in the 2003-08 Tennessee Recreation Plan or as identified in the Tennessee Greenways and Trails Plan; that provide for Alternative Transportation such as bicycle or pedestrian trails and that make Connections between destinations i.e., neighborhoods to parks or schools. (50 points possible)